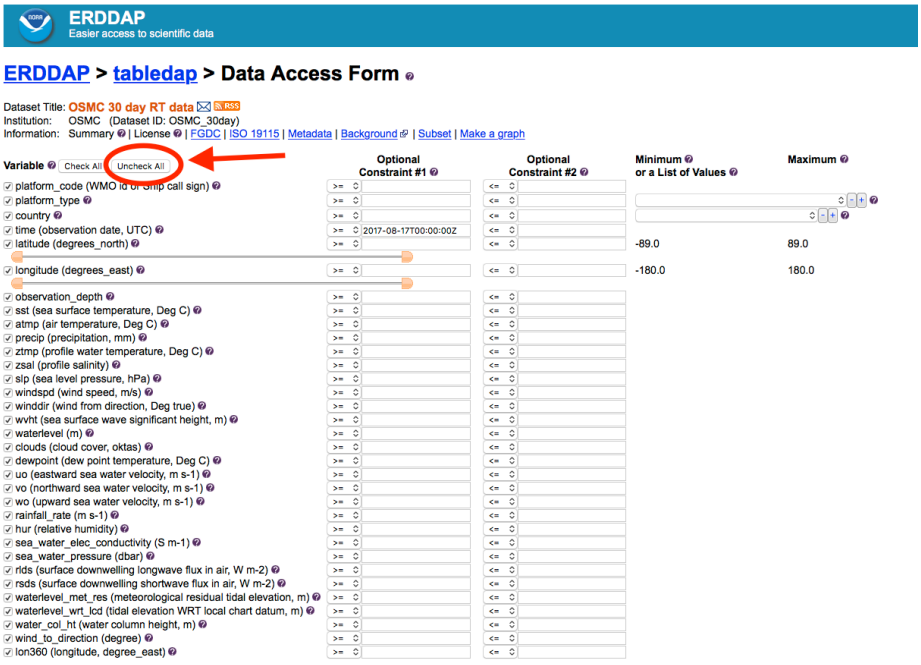
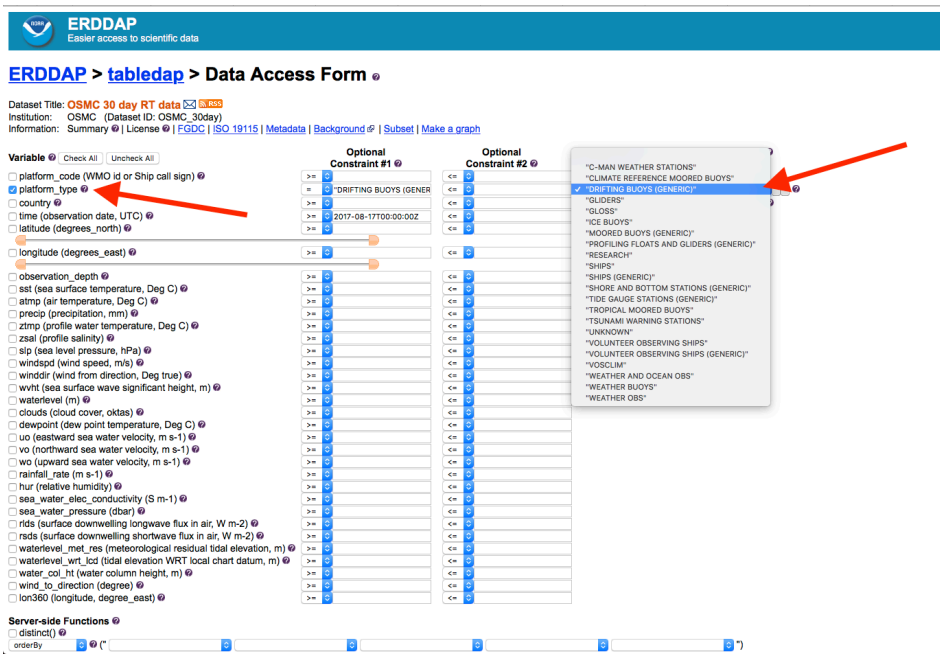
Real-time access for drifting buoy data – Basic instructions

To access real-time data from drifting buoys, please visit the NOAA OSMC ERDDAP webpage at http://osmc.noaa.gov/erddap/tabledap/OSMC_30day.html. Here, you will see the list of possible variables. Examples include: date ranges, specific regions, sst data, slp data, etc.

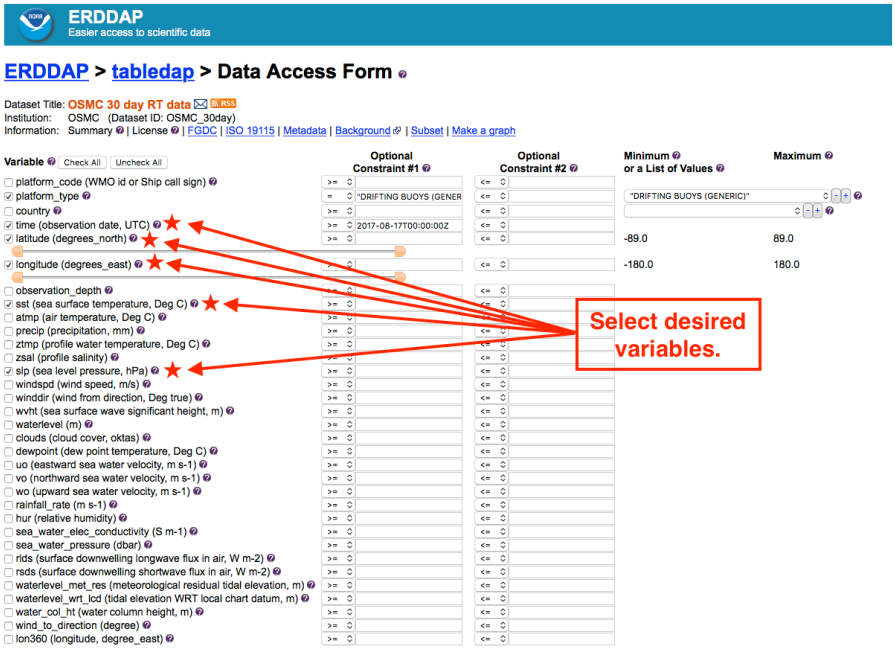
1. To begin, select “Uncheck All.”



2. Once all boxes are unchecked, within “platform type”, select “DRIFTING BUOYS {GENERIC}” from the pull-down tab on the far right.

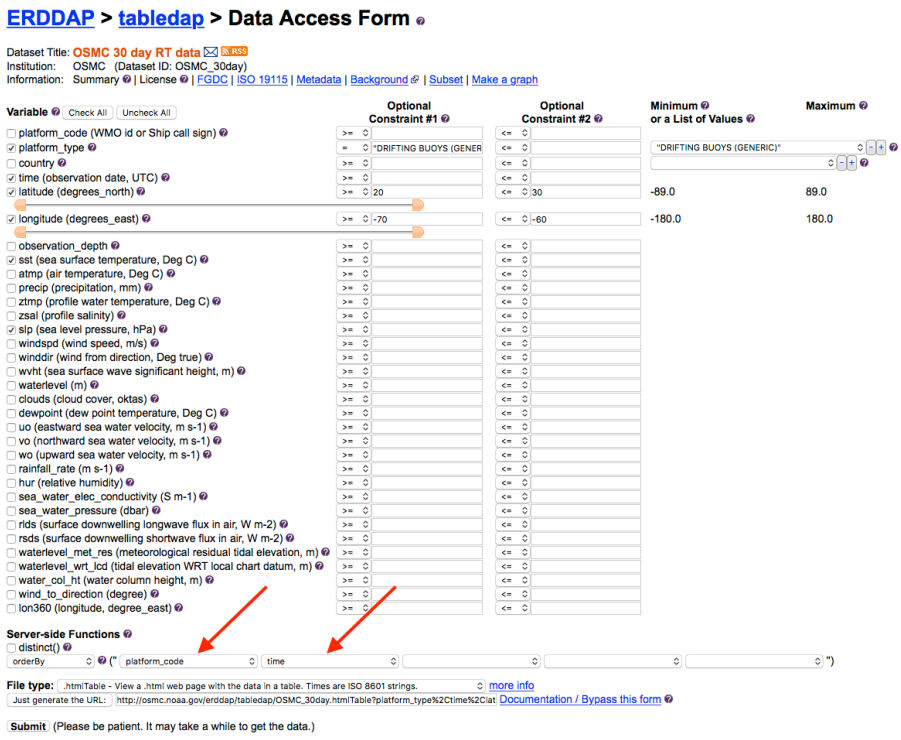


3. After selecting “DRIFTING BUOYS” within “platform_type”, next select the desired variable(s) . For example, if you are interested in time, latitude, longitude, SST, and SLP, you would check the following selections:

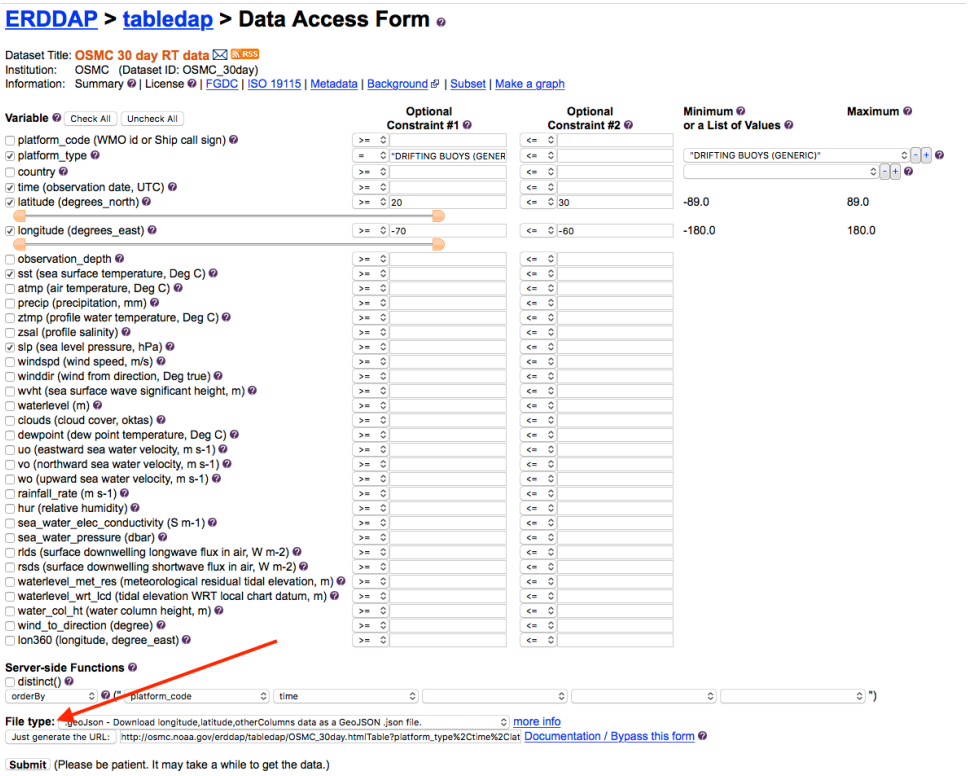


**Please note: If you desire specific coordinates, and/or a time parameter, you must enter these values In the “Optional Constraint” boxes to right of each field. **

4. Once all desired variables have been chosen, for best output results, under “Server-side Functions”, order variables by “platform_code” and “time”. In doing so, the output will be displayed by WMO number and time (chronologically).



5. To select the desired output format, select from the options within “File type”. Format options include comma separated (.csv), MATLAB (.mat), PDF (.pdf), ASCII (.asc), etc.



6. Once you have entered the desired information and chosen the output file type, click “Submit” to receive the data.